

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6933

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

CONFIDENTIAL SAN SALVADOR 4726

E.O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, OAS, ECIN, ETRD, ES, HO, XM, VE, CU

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BORGONOVO

1. MET WITH FON MIN BORGONOVO NOVEMBER 28 (THANKSGIVING) PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR NICARAGUA NOV 29 TO ATTEND PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S INAUGURATION. I ASKED FON MIN IF HE HAD RECEIVED THE REQUEST FROM THE OAS COMMITTEE OF SEVEN TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE. HE REPLIED THAT THE REQUEST HAD JUST BEEN RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO HIS STAFF TO PREPARE A REPLY.

2. SINCE THE LOCAL PRESS ARE AGAIN PREDICTING IMPORTANT DECISIONS ON THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMON MARKET AND THE HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR DISPUTE, I ASKED THE FON MIN WHAT DECISIONS HE EXPECTED WOULD BE MADE AT THE MEETING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN AND PANAMA PRESIDENTS IN MANAGUA. HE REPLIED THAT OCE HAD TO LOOK AT THE PROGRAM FOR DEC 1. THE PRESIDENTS WOULD ARRIVE IN THE MORNING, THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY WOULD BEGIN AT 11:00 AM AND LAST FOR SEVERAL HOURS, LUNCHEON WOULD FOLLOW AND MOST OF THE PRESIDENTS WOULD LEAVE TO RETURN TO THEIR RESPECTIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNTRIES BEFORE DARK. THE ONLY DECISION HE EXPECTED WOULD

BE A DECISION TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA TO MEET IN CARACAS.

3. I ASKED IF PRESIDENT MOLINA HAD ACCEPTED THE INVITATION OF VENEZUELA AS REPORTED IN THE LOCAL PRESS. HE SAID THAT PRESIDENT MOLINA HAD NOT ACCEPTED YET, BUT PROBABLY WOULD ACCEPT SINCE PRESIDENT ODUBER OF COSTA RICA HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED? ODUBER HAD UNDERSTOOD OR MISUNDERSTOOD THAT THE OTHER CA PRESIDENTS HAD PREVIOUSLY ACCEPTED. THE FON MIN FELT THAT THE MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN JAN WHICH WOULD ALLOW TIME FOR ESSENTIAL PREPARATIONS. HOWEVER, THE MEETING HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED AND CA PRESIDENTS WOULD PROBABLY AGREE TO ATTEND IN DECEMBER. BORGONOVO TOLD ME THAT THE VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR (I MET HIM IN THE RECEPTION ROOM) WAS WAITING TO SEE HIM CONCERNING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION FROM VENEZUELA. THE FON MIN STATED THAT COFFEE FINANCING WILL BE ONE ITEM ON THE AGENDA. THE LOCAL PRESS REPORTED THAT CUBA WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

4. SINCE THE FON MIN WILL BE IN MANAGUA SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE INAUGURATION HE HOPES TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING WITH THE ACTING FON MIN OF HONDURAS AND OTHERS TO CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF THE HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING UPDATING THE DOCUMENT THAT HE HAD WORKED OUT WITH FORMER FON MIN BATRES AS THE BASIS FOR CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, DUE TO THE REPORTED INSECURE POSITION OF PRESIDENT LOPEZ, HE WAS UNCERTAIN IF THIS WAS THE APPROPRIATE TIME TO TRY TO PROCEED.

5. IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE ONLY DECISION THE CA PRESIDENTS WILL MAKE IN MANAGUA WILL BE TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA. HOWEVER, STATEMENTS FROM THE MEETING ABOUT THE COMMON INTERESTS OF ALL THE COUNTRIES IN CA, BROTHERHOOD, ETC., MAY HELP TO PROVIDE A FAVORABLE CLIMATE FOR CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS ON THE CACM AND HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR NEGOTIATIONS.

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